

Amendments to the Specification

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 30, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment of the invention, the elastomer may be a copolymer of styrenic derived units and/or substituted styrenic derived units, and olefin derived units as described above. The styrene derived units are present from 3 wt% to 20 wt% based on the total weight of the polymer in one embodiment, from 5 wt% to 12 wt% in another embodiment, from 5 wt% to 15 wt% in yet another embodiment, and from 8 wt% to 13 wt% in yet another embodiment, and from 1 wt% to 15 wt%, wherein a desirable range of styrene derived unit may include any upper wt% limit with any lower wt% limit described herein. The olefin is present in the elastomer in a range of from 70 wt% to 99.5 wt% by weight of the elastomer in one embodiment, and 85 wt% to 99.5 wt% in another embodiment. Suitable olefins are selected from C₂ to C₁₀ olefins, non-limiting examples of which include ethylene, propene, 1-butene, isobutylene (an isoolefin), 1-hexene, 1-octene, cyclopentadiene (a multiolefin) and isoprene (a multiolefin). For example, one embodiment of a suitable elastomer for nanocomposites of the invention may be a copolymer or terpolymer of any one or two of these monomers with a styrenic monomer such as, for example, α -methylstyrene, *o*-methylstyrene, *m*-methylstyrene, and *p*-methylstyrene monomers.